

# October 18, 2019 Covenant Day Celebration and Home Shrine Circle Dedication Celebrating Our Mother Thrice Admirable's Covenant of Love and Network of Living Home Shrines

Our celebration took place at the Home Shrine of Keith and Carol Mechler who live in Troy, IL. Pictured are those who made our Covenant Day Celebration special and heartwarming. We had a group of 12 people including Father Joseph Havrilka, pastor of Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Maryville, IL, and two Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, Sister M. Deanne and Sister M. Theresa (not shown, she was taking the picture) who traveled down from Waukesha, WI to be with us. The other members who attended the celebration were Judi Schutzenhoffer from Collinsville, Jeannie Sockoch from Edwardsville, Richard and Rose Wonch from Shiloh, Joann Crager from Highland (also not shown), Christine Poddig from Glen Carbon, Judy Field and Susan Dick from Troy.



We began our celebration program by **offering Contributions to the Capital of Grace** to our Mother and Queen for the success of her mission among us especially through her Pilgrim Mother Apostolate represented by the Illinois Auxiliary Pilgrim Mother Shrine and small Pilgrim Mother Shrines used by our Missionaries to promote this Apostolate. We asked Sister M. Deanne to take our little slips of paper representing our Contributions back with them to be placed in the jar in the Shrine.

**We greeted the Blessed with the singing of "Hail Holy Queen" and a prayer** spiritually uniting ourselves with Father Kentenich and all Schoenstatt members in heaven and on earth in the Shrine to remember our founding day, October 18, 1914. We asked the Blessed Mother to intercede for our many petitions and intentions.



**The following message was read from Day 1 of the Home Shrine Dedication Novena:**

Father Kentenich was convinced that the renewal of families is necessary for the renewal of the world. He had no illusions regarding the daunting task of the renewal of families in the worldly and materialistic culture of our time. But he was also convinced that through the graces of the shrine, families could and would be renewed. He believed firmly that when your image Mother Thrice Admirable is venerated in a home, you dwell there as the Mother and Educator of the family. That is why he told his followers to enthrone your graced image in their homes.

**Next was the Presentation of our Living Home Shrines, our Gift for the Church – Fruit of the Illinois**



Auxiliary Pilgrim Mother and Queen of the Three Graces on the Move. The following members attached the names of their Home Shrines to the door of the Illinois Auxiliary Pilgrim Mother Shrine:

- Chris Leja – Hunger for Love Everlasting
- Richard and Rose – Queen Mother of Peace and Unity
- Fred and Christine – A Nazareth Home – A Holy Family
- Joann Crager – My Spirit Grows in Faith
- Susan Dick – The Cenacle
- Marge Huber, Keith, Carol – Mother and Queen of Our Family
- Keith and Carol – Our Mother and Queen, Our Perfect Prayer Partner



We finished the Presentation with our **Living Home Shrine Litany** asking the Blessed Mother to pray for us and intercede for us from all of her Living Home Shrines among us.

Father Joseph led us in **recommissioning of our Pilgrim Mother Apostolate Missionaries**, Richard and Rose Wonch, Christine Poddig, and Carol Mechler. Sister Deanne led us in the **renewal of the Covenant of Love** and singing My Queen, my Mother.

We closed our celebration program with a **prayer for the canonization of Father Joseph Kentenich**.

**Words and Prayer from Pope St. John Paul II (1980)**

“Let me address a sincere word of encouragement to families. May the **DOMESTIC CHURCH** of Christian families . . . become the place of fervent prayers. I recommend every family to the Holy Family of Nazareth and from my heart impart my apostolic blessing to you . . . and above all to every **HOME**. . . O God, from you comes all fatherhood in heaven and on earth. Grant that every human family on earth may become a true **SHRINE** of life and love for coming generations, through your Son Jesus Christ, who was born of a woman, and through the Holy Spirit.”



**Father Kentenich tells us**, “The words of our Holy Father are realized in an original way through the **HOME SHRINE**.” Everything depends on forming your own family into a shrine. The home shrine is a symbol of this, that is, the special place in your home that has been given to Our Lady. It is from there that Our Lady wants to and should carry out her task. . . that a religious atmosphere permeates the whole house, that a religious atmosphere keeps father and mother together, that a religious atmosphere also penetrates into the hearts of your children and grandchildren.”

**Through regular meetings at our MOVEMENT HOUSE in Troy, IL**, we want to give our Blessed Mother the opportunity to be Mother and Educator of the **DOMESTIC CHURCH**. Our purpose is to promote living in the **HOME SHRINE** and invite others to come and see and be inspired to join our Home Shrine Circle to help Our Lady permeate our homes with a religious atmosphere which can form holy families and holy family members.

Our evening ending with social time and refreshments.

